

# FEIMINISM SPIRIT REFLECTED IN LOLITA

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## INTRODUCTION

Feminism is a belief in the political, economic, and cultural equality of women. Feminism movement in the USA emerges in World War I (WW I). In this WWI, women participation proves that they deserve an equal representation and in 1920, based on the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, American women get their right to vote.

Later on, American women actively take part in the workforce during WW II due many men are sent to the war. This reverse role of men and women make women seek for a greater involvement in the workplace with equal pay. Then, American women name it the civil right movement and it has the result of the equal pay act in 1963.

In 1963 by the publication of Betty Friedan's *Feminine Mystique*, women are in the middle of debates about their roles outside and inside the house. In the domestic sphere, women have duty in homemaking and child care, while in the public sphere; women have their job to be done whether it's in particular industry or certain company and organization. So women's domestic and public roles sometimes clash with each other. By this time, many refer feminism as 'women's liberation'.

In 1972, The Equal Right Amendment is passed by the Congress which women seek legal equality and ban discrimination based on sex. A year to come, feminist celebrates The Supreme Court decision due to a guarantee of women's right to choose an abortion.

Recently, women are combating the case of sexual assault and rape culture. Of course, the problems which regard to women are not only that. However, feminist will make sure to eradicate misogyny and ensure women to have equal right. The famous feminist movements today are #MeToo and women's marches.

Nowadays, Thanks to the advanced of education, women are lining up side by side with men to get a proper knowledges at school or college, in every way

of life. Women are icons of strength, passion, love, sacrifice, struggle and courage (Nigam, 2018).

Long story short, to achieve those roles, women are still someone who need a backed up in life when facing complex problems and challenges in their life, from domestic to outside environment. Therefore, they should possess strong characteristic traits to overcome that. Consequently, they need to have an ideal figure to build their characters or to take feminism spirits which can be gained from reading novel, learning poetry, watching movie, etc.

Reading novel is one of the activities that are often in demand by women. They can get many things from it, such as take feminsim spirit, inspiration, meaning of life, virtue, and etc. In their daily lives, women are also confronted with their gender identity, which is feminine, where they must behave feminine like women in general to be accepted in their environment. One way that women do to develop their feminine nature is by reading novels (Laorena, 2005). Therewithal, *Lolita* is one of the novels that can give some lessons for the readers. *Lolita* is the title of a novel written by Vladimir Nabokov in 1955. When it came out to the public for the first time, there was noisiness among the readers especially who included into the umbrella of literary critics.

Before it gets published, Nabokov knew that *Lolita* will create furor because its content consist of taboo relationship, pornography, pedophile and obscenity. The main male character named Humbert Humbert, an English Literature professor involves with Lolita, 12 years old girl whom he calls "nymphet".

Lolita's story is told by the perspective of main male character, Humbert Humbert who has domination over Lolita's life. Lolita here is the main female character that gets misfortune after Humbert Humbert becomes a lodger in her mother house and later on married her mother in order to get close to her. *Lolita's* narration is created in such a way that Humbert Humbert disgusting acts ask justification from the reader in the disguise of beautiful language which he calls it 'aesthetic bliss'. Humbert Humbert narration manipulates the reader so that everything happened in the story; Lolita will be seen as debauched. Lolita's story can be said is tragic and inhuman; an English Literature intellectual who takes advantages of a young girl to fulfill his lust and obsession.

What is interesting about *Lolita*? Lolitas is the main female character, whom existence and depiction have been blurred by Humbert Humbert's narration. Despite the hazy narration, Lolita shows her female subjectivity through her voices in the novel, though it's weak and almost unheard. But indeed, it is strong.

In other hand, According to postmodern theorist, subjectivity has meaning to have self perspective, rather than another outside the self itself whether it is neutral or objective views. In this case, although in general Lolita's voice is depicted from Humbert Humbert eyes as weak and almost unheard, with the help of subjectivity approach, Lolita's voice will be observed and examined deeper to see the real deal of it.

So that, as an approach to women's self, experience, and feeling; female subjectivity looks how women herself live as herself as an individual (subject) and her role in life. Subjectivity considers a serious note on women's experience as an individual and human being. Subjectivity sees women based on their activities and role in giving credit for their identity and life's meaning.

Subjectivity is an attempt to look back the history that woman as individual, who had that history, and it applies to any woman out there, whether she is nymphet, teenager, adult, old, disable, etc. Subjectivity highlights 'women's consciousnesses and feelings' as an essential part.

Nancy F. Cott and Elizabeth H. Pleck (1979) in *A Heritage of Her Own* "Introduction", they mentioned that "not only how gender defines women's treatment, occupation, and so on; but also how women perceive the personal, social, and political meanings of being female".

As it is general that the world is dominated by the patriarchy system, man as masculine creature and white people privilege; the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy elaborates it: "since women have been cast as lesser form of the masculine individual, the paradigm of the self that has gained ascendancy in U.S. popular culture and in Western philosophy is derived form the experience of the predominatly white and heterosexual, mostly economically advantaged men who have wielded social, economic, and political power and who have dominated the arts, literature, the media, and scholarship".

Subjectivity could reinvent women in a societal conceptualization of 'the self', it is because in a long time, women stereotyped as "the other", and male is the agent of human norm. So, this human norm leans to take men/ male side rather than women/ female side. Moreover, Simone de Beauvoir wrote that "he is the subject, he is the absolute, and she is the other".

In addition of subjectivity, positivism will also be utilized. Positivism is a concept of philosophy invented by Auguste Comte in 1830 which acknowledge only positive truth and observable phenomenon, with the goal connection of these and the rules that established them, ignoring all the question into rationale or primary originality, as possession of the theological and metaphysical degree of thinking, developed for now replaced; also a religious concept invented upon

this philosophy, in which the target of prayer is humanity respected as a sole existence (Lenzer, 1975, xiv).

Positivism sees positive perspective of text taken from its characterization or certain information derived from sensory experience, interpreted through reason and logic, forms the distinguish source of all certain knowledge.

Therefore, this paper aims to unfold Lolita's female subjectivity and positivism to take its feminism spirit for women. So that, Lolita can become a significant role to be a model that women can look up to in the world that getting cruel and competitive toward women.

## METHOD

Content analysis method is applied in this research since it explored about Lolita's subjectivity and positivism reflected in her character traits. It employs highly on quantifiable aspects of text context and as a rule on absolute and relative frequencies of words per text or surface unit. The text analyzed is not the whole text of *Lolita* but selected parts which contain Lolita's words, utterances, replies, expressions and any hints that refer to Lolita's spoken act from beginning until the end of the story which express her female subjectivity and positivism. The selected text becomes the data of the research. The research question which want to be answered, what is feminism spirit reflected in Lolita? So that's why this research examined feminism spirit in Lolita.

Regard to the content analysis method, previous study uses the same method applied by Michele Meek. Michele writes *Lolita Speaks: Disrupting Nabokov's 'Aesthetic Bliss'*. In her article, Michele examined *Lolita* based on text and select particular parts of it and tries to dismantle Lolita's female subjectivity covered in the hazy narration of Humbert Humbert that he calls 'aesthetic bliss'. Furthermore, Michele wants to discover the ethic of Lolita's story and how perplexing girl's consent toward their sexuality though as a common citizen, we want to create a protection through statutory rape for girl. Here, Michele uses content analysis method to ease her research.

Forth, the writer goes within the novel of *Lolita* by close reading mode, examined the words, utterances, replies, expressions and any hints that refer to Lolita's spoken act from beginning until the end of the story which express her female subjectivity and positivism; and interpret it using theory of post-structural feminism.

The theory of post-structural feminism aims to uncover power domination and its relations, repression related to gender, sex, race, class, physical appearance, and sexual preference. Denying the assertion that post-

structuralism and its degenerate praxis are repudiation, contextual, non-representative, immoral, and lead to disability (Burr, 1995; Gough & Whitehouse, 2003; Kelly, 1997). The means are provided to inspect discourses that prepared from social aspect and techniques where people concern about it (Davies, 2000c), post-structuralism feminism provides the probability of transformations or changes.

"We are ethically bound to pay attention to how we word the world" said St. Pierre (p. 484). By means of observing the language/ how it produced and establishing discourses to emerge and perceptible, people are able to fix and correct something that make sense up to now and therefore cannot be changed (Gough & Whitehouse, 2003; Kumashiro, 2004; Weedon, 2004) and start to contemplate the improbable (Britzman, 1995). For instance, by categorizing gender/ sex as a social agreement and disturbing notions of gender/ sex normalization, people are able to open themselves up to new ways of being a woman or a man.

According to post-structuralism perspective, language plays an important role. In the essence of post-structuralism, people are 'subject' or 'main charater' of their accounts, or tales. Hence, they are always being yielded and cannot claim the center of realm that belongs to them alone. To denote this focus on one being made as a subject through erratic praxis, post-structuralism speaks of subjectiveness rather than distinctiveness. Subjects cannot claim to be writers of their beliefs (Weedon, 2004). Instead, it is beliefs that build one's subjectivity; one's understandings and whether it is both potential and permitted (Barret, 2005).

As such, post structural feminism tries to unfold Lolita real voice as a subject by verifying Lolita's emotion, thought, aspiration, desire, intention, etc. Then, the analysis will be conducted by interpreting the results and take the reflection gotten from it.

## **FINDING AND DISCUSSION**

Lolita's female subjectivity begins to emerge when her mother died. After her mother died, Humbert Humber who is her step father becomes her guardian. At first, she thought Humbert Humbert loves her because she is his step daughter, in fact, Lolita finds a bitter truth that Humbert Humbert wants to take advantage and molest her.

Lolita is unordinary young girl, or nymphet. Though she is twelve years old, she possess the characteristic traits of mature woman, such as sensitive, manipulative, brave, curious, bold and smart. In addition, Lolita awares of her characteristic traits and capability to bewitch any man who has interest in her.

In Enchanted Hunter hotel, when Humbert Humbert takes Lolita moves around and living nomadic live after being scared to get caught by the society regarding his indecent behavior toward Lolita, he mentioned that it is Lolita who seduces him first instead of the expression of need for protection after her mother died.

"Then she crept into my waiting arms, radiant, relaxed, caressing me with her tender, mysterious, impure, indifferent, twilight eyes – for all the world, like the cheapest of the cheap cuties. For that is what nymphets imitate – while moan and die." (Nabokov, 1959: 111)

"Frigid gentlemen of the jury! I had thought month, perhaps years, would elapse before I dared to reveal myself to Dolores Haze; but by six she was wide awake, and six fifteen we were technically lovers. I am going to tell you something very strange: it was she who seduced me" (Nabokov, 1959:122).

Yet Lolita with her boldness mocks Humbert Humbert that he never had an adventure exploring his sexual curiosity when he was young children. Whereas, Lolita claims that she already tries all kinds of sexual experiments with her friends during her stay in a camp.

"You mean," she persisted, now kneeling before me, "you never did it when you were a kid?" (Nabokov, 1959:122).

Lolita's subjectivity is getting stronger day by day and she knows how to control the other and not to be controlled. She gets smarter to manipulate Humbert Humbert when he demands physical encounter all the time while she is broken and destroyed inside. How could a nymphet thrive when her step father who should protect her, on the contrary rape and enslave her. For her own sake, Lolita shows her tantrum everytime Humbert Humbert wants to get close to her.

"I had been careless, stupid, and ignoble. And let me be quite frank: somewhere at the bottom of that dark turmoil I felt the writhing of desire again, so monstrous was my appetite for the miserable nymphet. Mingled with the pangs of guilt was the agonizing thought that her mood might prevent me from making love to her again as soon as I found a nice country road where to park in peace" (Nabokov, 1959:140).

Lolita is a typical nymphet who loves to assert her likes and dislikes. She loves popular culture, she gets hook up with reading comic and magazine, listening to the music, watching movie, etc. she is amazed with the goods she bought at the store, like: new clothes, nail polish, lipstick, candy, trendy glasses,

etc. As a modern nymphet, she uses a slanglanguage to communicate with her friends; therefore Lolita is nymphet who likes to express herself.

Any wearable purchase workedwonders with Lo (Nabokov, 1959:61)

Sweet hot jazz, square dancing, gooey fudge sundaes, musicals, movie magazines and so forth — these were the obvious items in her list of beloved things (Nabokov, 1959:136)

Lolita of the strident voice and rich brown hair — of the bangs and the swirls and the sides and the curls at the back, and the sticky hot neck, and the vulgar vocabulary — —revolting,|| —super,|| —luscious,|| —goon,|| —drip|| — that Lolita, my Lolita, poor Catullus would lose forever (Nabokov, 1959:62)

As the time goes by, Lolita realizes that she needs to entertain herself by buying goods or anything that she curious about at her age, it's all because she gets trap with Humbert Humbert. She buys expensive stuff; she does whatever she wants, she listens to the music she wants to listen, she watches movie she wants to watch, etc. she does not care with the money because Humbert Humbert always provides it to her. Humbert Humbert deliberately treats Lolita special and overwhelms her with all the things she wants because he wants to keep Lolita's mood stable in exchange with a sexual pleasure that he will get whenever he wants.

—Oh, I want to see that picture. Let's go right after dinner. Oh, let's!|| (Nabokov, 1959:107).

If a roadside sign said: Visit Our Gift Shop — we had to visit it, had to buy its Indian curios, dolls, copper jewelry, cactus candy. The words —novelties and souvenirs|| simply entranced her by their trochaic lilt (Nabokov, 1959:136)

In the gay town of Lepingville I bought her four books of comics, a box of candy, a box of sanitary pads, two cokes, a manicure set, a travel clock with a luminous dial, a ring with a real topaz, a tennis racket, roller skates with white high shoes, held glasses, a portable radio set, chewing gum, a transparent raincoat, sunglasses, some more garments — swooners, shorts, all kinds of summer frocks (Nabokov, 1959:130)

Lolita is considered a rebel for her mother, and they often fight for small things, such as: Lolita does not want to make her bed, Lolita does not want to wash her hair frequently, Lolita does not want to go to the church, Lolita does not want to do this and that. It seems that Charlotte Haze, Lolita's mother does not understand a nymphet's mind and how to react to their behavior; she even looked unconcern toward her daughter. She justifies Lolita based on her opinion without making two way communications with Lolita, thus she tends to think Lolita being dramatic, exaggerate and rebellious. Then, she decides what's good

for Lolita's life including her education, her friends, her life, and so on. She thinks that Lolita will be happy regarding all the decisions that she makes for her.

Of course, moodiness is a common concomitant of growing up, but Lo exaggerates. Sullen and evasive. Rude and deviant (Nabokov, 1959:45)

And, you know, I think a summer camp is so much healthier, and— well, it is all so much more reasonable as I say than to mope on a suburban lawn and use mamma's lipstick, and pursue shy studious gentlemen, and go into tantrums at the least provocation|| (Nabokov, 1959:60)

—Little Lo, I'm afraid, does not enter the picture at all, at all. Little Lo goes straight from camp to a good boarding school with strict discipline and some sound religious training. And then — Beardsley College. I have it all mapped out, you need not worry|| (Nabokov, 1959:78)

As mentioned above that Lolita very much immersed into popular culture, it is indirectly taught her about freedom ideology. Then she assumes that she can express her feeling as she wants, but in fact, her expression cannot be understood by her mother. Lolita and her mother also speak different kind of language, Lolita with her fancy toward slang, frequently have an argument with her mother regarding the language she use and it is impressed that Lolita has rude attitude toward her mom. Lolita's mother lives in a world that is commonly expected by the society, to have a good reputation, be a great mother and housewife, have sweet husband, etc. Lolita thinks that her mother life is very superficial; and her mother does not concern with Lolita happiness.

And now we all think that Lo should go to bed.|| —I think you stink,|| said Lo. —Which means there will be no picnic tomorrow,|| said Haze. —This is a free country|| said Lo. (Nabokov, 1959:44)

—Pardonnez, Mother. I was not aiming at you|| (Nabokov, 1959:53)

Lolita's mother is a widow, and it's been a long time when she lives alone with her daughter, Lolita. Psychologically, Lolita's mother get lonely and when Humbert Humbert becomes a lodger in her house, Lolita and her mother becomes a rival to gain Humbert Humbert's attention as he is the only male in the house. Whilst Lolita seeks Humbert Humbert attention because she never gets fatherly love, care and interest.

Don't tell Mother but I've eaten all your bacon|| (Nabokov, 1959:48)

Then, with perfect simplicity, the impudent child extended her legs across my lap (Nabokov, 1959:56)



Lolita's mother is basically simply hates her daughter, Lolita. Even, Charlotte describes Lolita's character as worst as it can be. Yet, Charlotte's description might be wrong at all because all what Charlotte's sees is only Lolita's drawback.

The child throws a fit; pretext: you and I want to get rid of her; actual reason: I told her we would exchange tomorrow for plainer stuff. Some much too cute night things that she bullied me into buying for her. You see, she sees herself as a starlet; I see her as a sturdy, healthy, but decidedly homely kid. This, I guess, is at the root of our troubles|| (Nabokov, 1959:61)

Oh, she simply hated her daughter! (Nabokov, 1959:76)

On Lo's twelfth, January 1, 1947, Charlotte Haze, née Becker, had underlined the following epithets, ten out of forty, under "*Your Child's Personality*": aggressive, boisterous, critical, distrustful, impatient, irritable, inquisitive, listless, negativistic (underlined twice) and obstinate. She had ignored the thirty remaining adjectives, among which were cheerful, co-operative, energetic, and so forth. It was really maddening (Nabokov, 1959:76)

Lolita's mother died in an accident. And next, Humbert Humbert will pick Lolita up in the camp and live with him in hotel after hotel, motel by motel across America, from one state to another. In their first night, Humbert Humbert does not tell Lolita that they will share a room and Lolita object it and says that her mother will get angry if she knows about it; Lolita reacts like that because at that time she does not know at all that her mother died.

—Are we going to sleep in one room?|| said Lo, her features working in that dynamic way they did — not cross or disgusted (though plain on the brink of it) but just dynamic — when she wanted to load a question with violent significance (Nabokov, 1959:110)

—The word is incest,|| said Lo (Nabokov, 1959:111)

—Say, wouldn't Mother be absolutely mad if she found out we were lovers?|| (Nabokov, 1959:105)

—Because, my dahrning, when dahrning Mother finds out she'll divorce you and strangle me|| (Nabokov, 1959:110)

When Lolita finds out her mother died, she accuses Humbert Humbert as a murderer. Though, all this time she always has an arguments and fights with her mother; Lolitas' feeling toward her mother is still the same, isn't it common that she loves her mother, her mother nurtured her since she was a baby. Now on, like it or not Lolita has to live with Humbert Humbert even though deep down in her heart, she feels scared, insecure, and broken. Hereinafter, Lolita sniff out that Humbert Humbert has bad intention toward her. Lolita's tries hard to reject

Humbert Humbert but in the end she cannot resist him after she learns the truth that her mother died; though it's hard, immoral and faulty.

—And you know where her grave is,|| I said controlling myself, whereupon I named the cemetery — just outside Ramsdale, between the railway tracks and Lakeview Hill (Nabokov, 1959:261)

And her sobs in the night — every night, every night — the moment I feigned sleep (Nabokov, 1959:160)

At one point, after a year travelling from state to state, Humbert Humbert decides to settle in Beardsley so that Lolita can go to school. At a new school, Lolita closes to Avis and when she looks at how closes avis with her father, the feeling of jealous arises. It is contrast with her condition that although Humbert Humbert legally is her step father, the truth Humbert Humbert is a monster, he is the one who crushes her happiness.

Suddenly, as Avis clung to her father's neck and ear while, with a casual arm, the man enveloped his lumpy and large offspring, I saw Lolita's smile lose all its light and become a frozen little shadow of itself, and the fruit knife slipped off the table and struck her with its silver handle a freak blow on the ankle which made her gasp, and crouch head forward, and then, jumping on one leg, her face awful with the preparatory grimace which children hold till the tears gush, she was gone (Nabokov, 1959:260)

Lolita's character is shaped by her social envirointment, from family, friends, school, neighbor, etc. Lolita is a typical the only daughter in a family who does whatever she wants yet in a positive way; she is very active, outspoken, sociable, expressive and attentive. Further, Lolita's father died when she was young, with the result she lives with her mother whom she can describes as a modern mother type in America at that time, a type of mother who wants everything to be perfect from all aspects. Thereto, Lolita's mother also works to provide for her so Lolita lack of affection from her mother. This lack of affection indirectly governs Lolita's behavior.

Wednesday. —Look, make Mother take you and me to Our Glass Lake tomorrow|| (Nabokov, 1959:43)

To be sent in a camp, Lolita's behavior becomes out of control thanks to her curiosity and bad influence from her envirointment in a camp. Lolita's friends in a camp experiment their sexuality freely and because of that she is exposed by obscenity.

—Bad, bad girl,|| said Lo comfortably. —Juvenile delickwent, but frank and fetching (Nabokov, 1959:105)

—Oh, I've been such a disgusting girl,|| she went on (Nabokov, 1959:113)

Every morning, oh my reader, the three children would take a short cut through the beautiful innocent forest brimming with all the emblems of youth, dew, birdsongs, and at one point, among the luxuriant undergrowth, Lo would be left as sentinel, while Barbara and the boy copulated behind a bush. At first, Lo had refused —to try what it was like,|| but curiosity and camaraderie prevailed (Nabokov, 1959:126).

Although conceding it was —sort of fun|| and —fine for the complexion,|| Lolita, I am glad to say, held Charlie's mind and manners in the greatest contempt (Nabokov, 1959:126-127).

Lolita gets tired of Humbert Humbert who always tries to take opportunity of her and threatens him that she will spread the truth about him to the people, still Humbert Humbert craftily tells her that if she spreads the rumour, she herself who will get disadvantages, not him.

—If we two are found out, you will be analyzed and institutionalized, my pet, c'est tout|| (Nabokov, 1959:139),

—My Lo was even more scared of the law than I|| (Nabokov, 1959:156).

Lolita cannot stand living with Humbert Humbert anymore and plan an escape. Humbert Humbert is too strict for her and even forbids her to talk to the strangers so that people wouldn't know their situation.

This was one of the reasons why I tried to keep as far away from people as possible, while Lo, on the other hand, would do her utmost to draw as many potential witnesses into her orbit as she could (Nabokov, 1959:150)

By putting the geography of the United States into motion, I did my best for hours on end to give her the impression of —going places,|| of rolling on to some definite destination, to some unusual delight (Nabokov, 1959:139)

As manipulative as possible, Lolita is still Lolita, a twelve years old nymphet who still very naïve, innocent, and easy to get swayed. In the very beginning, she attracts to Humbert Humbert because he resembles her favourite playwright idol and wants to get close to him. And next on, it is Lolita who sounds like the seductive one.

—Moreover, I am said to resemble some crooner or actor chap on whom Lo has a crush|| (Nabokov, 1959:42)

—Pubescent Lo swooned to Humbert's charm as she did to hiccuppy music|| (Nabokov, 1959:97)

—Okay,|| she said cooperatively, and bending toward her warm upturned russet face somber Humbert pressed his mouth to her fluttering eyelid. She laughed, and brushed past me out of the room (Nabokov, 1959:42-43).

—okay|| could be referred to her own feeling of acceptance toward Humbert's treatment; —(Who, as the reader will mark, was more afraid of Lo's deriving some pleasure from me than of my enjoying Lo)|| (Nabokov, 1959:53).

Lolita is very expressive in delivers her feeling, no exception when she has feeling for Humbert Humbert in the beginning. It means that she is mentally healthy nymphet.

—I did not. Fact I've been revoltingly unfaithful to you, but it does not matter one bit, because you've stopped caring for me, anyway. You drive much faster than my mummy, mister|| (Nabokov, 1959:104).

Hardly had the car come to a standstill than Lolita positively owed into my arms (Nabokov, 1959:104).

—Well, I'm also sort of fond of you,|| said Lolita in a delayed soft voice, with a sort of sigh, and sort of settled closer to me (Nabokov, 1959:107).

Lolita gets smarter, forth she utilizes her capability to give Humbert Humbert pleasure as a transactions, she will not give Humbert Humbert what he wants if she does not get anything in return. Here, it shows that Lolita wises up her potential to control Humbert Humbert.

And it would take hours of blandishments, threats and promises to make her lend me for a few seconds her brown limbs in the seclusion of the five-dollar room before undertaking anything she might prefer to my poor joy (Nabokov, 1959:135).

With the human element dwindling, the passion, the tenderness, and the torture only increased; and of this she took advantage (Nabokov, 1959:167).

—For little Lo was aware of that glow of hers (Nabokov, 1959:146).

Fed up with her living with Humbert Humbert, she plans her escape with Clare Quilty. This seed of thought of Lolita blooms as a result of Quilty becomes her playwright coach and since then, she learns to lie and put on a good acting to trick Humbert Humbert.

—Can you remember,|| She said, —what was the name of that hotel, you know [nose puckered], come on, you know — with those white columns and the marble swan in the lobby? Oh, you know [noisy exhalation of breath] — the hotel where you raped me|| (Nabokov, 1959:184)

He was the only man she had ever been crazy about (Nabokov, 1959:248)

By permitting Lolita to study acting I had, fond fool, suffered her to cultivate deceit (Nabokov, 1959:209)

Lolita's deceitfulness found out by Humbert Humbert and it rages him, so he slaps her hard and it makes Lolita runs away with Quilty by suggesting a second trip from state to state again, so that in the middle of the street, Quilty can abduct her. This time, Lolita suggests that she is the one who will arrange the route of the trip without Humbert Humbert knowing.

—Lo was enraged by all this — called me a lousy crook and worse|| (Nabokov, 1959:170)

—Enmeshed in her wild words (swell chance... I'd be a sap if I took your opinion seriously... Stinker... You can't boss me... I despise you... and so forth)|| (Nabokov, 1959:156).

—Yes||, yet Lolita asked Humbert to make love that time. —Tried to reach you at home,|| she said brightly.

—A great decision has been made. But first buy me a drink, dad|| (Nabokov, 1959:189)

—Carry me upstairs, please, I feel sort of romantic tonight|| (Nabokov, 1959:189)

Lolita succeeds in escaping from Humbert Humbert when she gets ill in the middle of the trip and needs to be hospitalized. In the hospital, in Humbert Humbert absence, Quilty checks her out. Finding out that Lolita missing, Humbert Humbert frustrates and tries to search for her even after two years after. Until, one day Lolita aged seventeen years old, pregnant and asks Humbert Humbert help.

When Humbert Humbert meets Lolita after a long time, he asks her about what happened in the hospital and how she got missing. Lolita tells her everything that she escapes with Clare Quilty and in fact Quilty also a pedophile so she escapes again and ends up with her husband now. Her husband is only an ordinary guy named Dick Schiller.

A wise girl, she controlled herself (Nabokov, 1959:247)

She said really it was useless, she would never tell, but on the other hand, after all — —Do you really want to know who it was? Well, it was —|| (Nabokov, 1959:248)

She refused to take part because she loved him, and he threw her out (Nabokov, 1959:252)

Meeting Lolita again, Humbert Humbert's feeling arises excitedly. He says that he would help her if she leaves her husband and lives with him again, just like in the past. Lolita's reaction toward Humbert Humbert offering is very disgusting and flabbergasted in disbelief. That time, Lolita's subjectivity looked very visible and firm. Looking that, Humbert Humbert surrenders and gives Lolita money.

You mean,|| she said opening her eyes and rising herself slightly, the snake that may strike, —you mean you will give us [us] that money only if I go with you to a motel. Is that what you mean?|| ... —You're crazy,|| she said, her features working ... —No,|| she said. —No, honey, no|| (Nabokov, 1959:254)

—You know, what's so dreadful about dying is that you are completely on your own|| (Nabokov, 1959:259)

Based on the findings above, Lolita indeed has a voice and it is not weak. In every occasion since Humbert Humbert takes her from one hotel to another, she openly shows her true strong feeling, emotion, desire, disappointment, like and dislike. It is Humbert Humbert who makes it hazy because he does not care and ignorant toward Lolita's feeling whether it sad or happy. Narration in the story is obviously dominated by Humbert Humbert points of view regard of everything, including Lolita. Lolita's existence is only important because it can give Humbert Humbert contentment for his own pleasure and desire.

Lolita's journey in her miserable life perhaps starts because she lacks fatherly love and she and her mother always have dispute even for a small thing. She thirsts of love and affection from male figure that she misses in her life. She tries to get fatherly love from Humbert Humbert but it gets twisted because Humbert Humbert has abnormal attraction to young girl whom he calls nymphet. At first, Lolita claims that she likes Humbert Humbert for his resemblance with her favorite actor, Quilty. Here, it is indirectly tells us that Lolita is a normal nymphet who can attract, admire and like someone just because of trivial things.

Lolita is honest 12 years old nymphet who expresses her feeling, emotion, and everything clearly and has huge curiosity. It is stated clearly in the novel that she is into American pop culture, whether its actor, actresses, product, ideology, etc. She also does not hesitate to unearth new thing like exploring her sexuality.

Lolita is a nymphet who matures before its time. She faces tragic condition and learns her mother passed away and accuses Humbert Humbert as a murderer. Later on, she goes along with Humbert Humbert plan and put a price

if he wants to go near. She will demand stuff that will make her happy for a moment and forget her agony.

Despite a hard time, Lolita thrives and successfully escapes from Humbert Humbert but she falls into another pedophile hand that is Quilty. Once again, Lolita runs away from the same monster she used to know, even it gets scarier and more horrible, Quilty asks her to star in a porn film.

Lolita had enough. She paves her own way leaving Quilty and meets her current Husband who does not know anything of Lolita's past. Lolita is certainly young but her wits save her. She can change her terrible destiny into a proper marriage with someone whom she loves and moves on in life.

From the findings, it is no doubt that Lolita surely has a voice. A voice of her own to feel, to react, to observe, to plan, to fix, to have quick wits and etc. Lolita's voice is not dim, but it echoes in her own way in spite of everything. Thereto, Positivism from the text of *Lolita* also told us that Lolita spirit resisting filthy things in her life represent feminism spirit in general that women should possess. Those feminism spirits are independent, able to stand for themselves, able to protect themselves and their own kind. Then, only the one who really is listening to Lolita will hear her and take feminism spirit from it.

## CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Based on the findings and discussions, Lolita's subjectivity appears consistently potent from the beginning until the end. Although from the surface, it is assumed as weak and almost unheard because the main narration of the story delivered from Humbert Humbert's perspective which it certainly and mostly is debauchery. But in fact, Lolita's voices resound firmly. Even, she is one in a kind who can face that kind of difficulty although in the end she died in childbirth.

Despite perplexing narration, positivism in *Lolita* radiates for those who can read it in clarity and only take positive things of it. As we know, *Lolita* is well known of its story about amoral and flirty nymphet. But in fact, all Lolita's acts are the reaction of each occurrence and if it is seen wholly, Lolita's character has feminism spirit to fight oppression, exploitation, marginalization, and violence done by Humbert Humbert in the story.

To sum up, Lolita's solid female subjectivity gives a representation of feminism spirit toward women who needs to be careful and stays alert in their environment. Sometimes, sexual harassment comes from the nearest people around. Thereupon, women needs to have a role model to be independent, stands for themselves, can protect themselves and their own kind. Then, Lolita is

one of the figures who emit feminism spirit. She is strong in her own way and thrives despite her unfortunate fate.